

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But whatever their private opinions, the public interest is not served by the broadcast of one-sided propaganda. Will Senator Kerry get equal time from Sinclair? Will he be allowed to speak about his experiences and views for as long as this pseudo-documentary runs? Clearly, he will not. Neither equal time nor fairness nor the community will be served by this electioneering masquerading as news.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.